

Regular Session of the Board of County Commissioners for the County of St. Joseph, State of Michigan, was held in the Commissioners' Room, Courthouse at the Village of Centreville, Michigan on August 17, 2010, at 5:00 p.m.

Chairman Michael Dunlap called the meeting to order.

The Invocation was given by Commissioner Shaffer.

The Pledge to the American Flag was given.

The Clerk, Pattie S. Bender, called the roll and the following Commissioners were present:

Rick Shaffer	Gerald E. Loudenslager
Michael D. Dunlap	Robin Baker
Jerry Ware	David J. Pueschel
John L. Dobberteen	

Also present were Judy West-Wing, Administrator/Controller, Dan Carey, Finance Director and Elishia Arver, Human Resource Director.

#### AGENDA

Ms. West-Wing recommended that the resolution be moved up to the first order of business after the first Citizens Comments.

It was moved by Commissioner Dobberteen and supported by Commissioner Loudenslager that the agenda be approved as amended. Motion carried.

#### MINUTES APPROVED

It was moved by Commissioner Loudenslager and supported by Commissioner Dobberteen that the minutes for August 2, 2010 be approved. Motion carried.

#### COMMUNICATIONS

1. Letter from Steve Yorks, Re: Thank you for your support of the Transportation Authority's Millage request for 2010.
2. Letter from U.S. Census Bureau, Re: Thank you for partnering with the U.S. Census Bureau for the 2010 census.
3. Resolution from Eaton County, Re: Proclaiming July as safe storage and disposal of medications month in Eaton County.
4. Resolution from Lake County, Re: Supporting Senate Bill 449 (Minimum standards for police officers to remain certified.)
5. Resolution from Lake County, Re: Supporting Senate Bill 449.

It was moved by Commissioner Loudenslager and supported by Commissioner Shaffer that the communications be accepted and placed on file. Motion carried.

#### CITIZENS COMMENTS

Tim Carls, 63044 Klinger Lake Road, Centreville asked Ms. West-Wing how many people applied for the Engineer/Manager's position at the Road Commission. Ms. West-Wing stated that she thinks that 93 people applied. Mr. Carls then asked Ms. West-Wing how much the position will pay and she responded by saying that she did not know.

Tim Carls stated that now Bruce Jones is being paid \$43/hour.

RESOLUTION HONORING MARK WRIGHT

Mark Wright spoke about the many ribbons and medals that he was wearing and earned at the National Special Olympics that were recently held in Nebraska.

Commissioner Baker read the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 18-2010  
PROCLAMATION HONORING MARK WRIGHT

WHEREAS, Mark Wright competed in athletics at the 2010 Special Olympics USA National Games in Lincoln, Nebraska from July 19-23, 2010; and

WHEREAS, athletics is a competition in which athletes compete in track and field sporting events; and

WHEREAS, there were 3,500 athletes from all over the nation competing at the 2010 Special Olympics USA National Games; and

WHEREAS, Mark Wright participated in four events during the week and is part of Team Michigan which includes 59 Special Olympics Michigan athletes, 2 unified partners, 17 coaches and 5 Special Olympics Michigan staff members; and

WHEREAS, Mark Wright received a Silver Medal in the 100m run, Silver Medal in the 4X100 relay alongside his teammates, fifth place ribbon in the 200m run, and a fifth place ribbon in the long jump.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners congratulates Mark Wright on his outstanding performance at the 2010 Special Olympics USA National Games.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be spread upon the proceedings of the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners this 17<sup>th</sup> day of August and be presented to Mark with sincere thanks for representing St. Joseph County at this esteemed event.

It was moved by Commissioner Baker and supported by Commissioner Ware that the resolution be adopted and 2nd reading waived.

The aye and nay vote was called as follows:

Aye votes cast: 7 - Commissioners Shaffer, Loudenslager, Dunlap, Baker, Ware, Pueschel and Dobberteen.

Nay votes cast: 0

Resolution adopted.

Commissioner Baker presented the resolution to Mr. Wright and all stood and applauded.

UPDATE ON LOCAL FOSTER CARE RECRUITMENT

Probate Judge Thomas Shumaker stated that on June 21, 2010 the Board approved \$20,000 to improve foster care recruitment. There were no specifics at that time and the group that has been meeting focused their energies on 5 areas. He is recommending that funds be allocated to these 5 areas as follows:

- 1 - Recruitment materials and services - \$2,500
- 2 - Licensing assistance - \$1,000
- 3 - Support group - \$6,000
- 4 - Respite - \$1,000
- 5 - Public relations - \$500

The group decided to begin focusing their recruitment in the faith based community.

Pam Smith, a foster/adoptive parent gave a presentation with a power point regarding her experience in foster parenting. The presentation was directed to the faith based community.

Judge Shumaker stated that while their focus, at first, is to the faith based community, they would like to eventually make presentations to service clubs and organizations.

They are trying to recruit foster parents, but they also would like to solicit people that could be supportive to families that have foster kids like providing meals or babysitting the kids so that the parents could have some time to themselves.

Mrs. Smith stated during her presentation that we all need to “aspire to inspire before you expire.” She said that we can save these kids one at a time.

Judge Shumaker stated that they want to move slowly through this process and will stick with the faith based community first and work out any bumps that may come along. They do not want to do too much too soon. He said that Bethany Christian Services is also recruiting foster parents and they are a part of their focus group as is DHS, CA/N Council and others.

It was moved by Commissioner Dobberteen and supported by Commissioner Shaffer that the \$11,000 be allocated to the foster care recruitment program as requested by Judge Shumaker.

Commissioner Dobberteen stated that this program is much better than continuing to write \$80,000 checks to the Department of Human Services. He is glad that the community is stepping up.

Chairman Dunlap is impressed with Judge Shumaker’s efforts to put this together. The group has some concrete ideas to achieve a goal.

Commissioner Shaffer commended Judge Shumaker and the focus group.

Judge Shumaker stated that he believes that the group needs judicial leadership but there is a fine line being a Judge at the same time. Since April 15th of this year many kids have been released from the system.

Chairman Dunlap is glad that everyone is working in one direction now.

Judge Shumaker further stated that the settlement of a few years ago was wrong costing the County so much money.

He will continue to keep the Board informed of their progress.

The aye and nay vote was called as follows:

Aye votes cast: 7 - Commissioners Shaffer, Loudenslager, Dunlap, Baker, Ware, Pueschel and Dobberteen.

Nay votes cast: 0

Motion carried.

#### COUNTY-WIDE RADIO SYSTEM - BUDGET AMENDMENT

The 911 Policy Board is recommending a budget amendment to the County-wide Radio System of an additional \$42,817 including \$10,000 for an independent coverage study if the Board is not pleased with the contractor’s study.

Commissioner Dobberteen stated that there seems to be many cost overruns.

Andy Goldberger, Central Dispatch Director, stated that the City of Sturgis tower site is the largest cost plus they still have to pay the City for the rent of the site; there was cabling that had to be added; they had to put a light on it; and had to hire an engineer because the tower had to be lowered according to FAA regulations.

Commissioner Dobberteen stated that he thought that the tower expenses were included in the original estimate.

Mr. Goldberger responded that the sites were identified before the project was begun and some of them had to be changed for various reasons. He added that the radio vendor is bonded and insured.

Commissioner Dobberteen stated that if the system does not work then the consultant needs to pay.

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and supported by Commissioner Dobberteen that a budget amendment in the amount of \$32,817 (not including the additional \$10,000 for the independent study) for the County-wide Radio System be approved.

Commissioner Baker stated that he cannot support the motion because of the continual increases in cost. The project began with an estimated cost of \$900,000 and then a year ago it increased an additional \$147,000 and now there is a request for another \$32,000. He stated that the Commissioners need to be responsible for taxpayer dollars.

Chairman Dunlap stated that this money is taken from the 911 Fund.

Mr. Goldberger added that none of this money goes to the consultant but is to finish the project. They should be on line this Thursday. He went out today and tested his portable and it worked very well. The system is working as designed.

Ms. West-Wing stated that if existing tower sites would have been used, then this cost overrun may not have been necessary, but she believes that the right decision was made by not being on others' towers and recommended approval of this request. The issues with the consultant can be addressed at a later date.

Commissioner Dobberteen asked how many of this type of radio systems are in the State and Mr. Goldberger stated that there were many in the nation and others are looking at our system.

Commissioner Dobberteen responded that maybe rather than trailblazing we should be following others' lead.

Commissioner Ware asked if this could wait until the next meeting.

Commissioner Dobberteen stated that some of the laborers may have their paychecks held up if we do not pay this \$32,000.

The aye and nay vote was called as follows:

Aye votes cast: 5 - Commissioners Shaffer, Loudenslager, Dunlap, Pueschel and Dobberteen.

Nay votes cast: 2 - Commissioners Baker and Ware.

Motion carried.

#### VACANCY TO BE FILLED

It was moved by Commissioner Dobberteen and supported by Commissioner Baker that the vacancy part time typist/clerk's position be filled at the Sheriff's Department. Motion carried.

#### NOMINATIONS/APPOINTMENTS

##### Solid Waste Management Planning Commission

It was moved by Commissioner Dobberteen and supported by Commissioner Baker that Eric Shafer, Aaron Cullifer, Krysti Boughton, Robert Robinson and John Dobberteen be reappointed to the Solid Waste Management Planning Commission for 2 year terms expiring September 1, 2012. Motion carried.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

##### Law Enforcement

Commissioner Loudenslager stated that there was no report.

##### Judiciary

Commissioner Loudenslager stated that there was no report.

Physical Resources

Commissioner Ware stated that the Physical Resources Committee would be meeting tonight after this Board meeting.

Executive Committee

Commissioner Shaffer stated that the Executive Committee Meeting was held on August 13, 2010 and most items discussed there have been discussed this evening. One issue not discussed tonight that will require future discussion is out-of-state travel.

PERSONNEL REPORT

Ms. West-Wing presented the following report:

NEW HIRES:

Sally L. Swanson has been hired as In-home Services Aide at \$10.05/hr. (COA, grade 5, minimum) effective August 4, 2010.

Christine J. Brown has been hired as In-Home Services Aide at \$10.05/hr. (COA, grade 5, minimum) effective August 4, 2010.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Susan Coe, In-Home Services Aide, is on medical leave commencing August 5, 2010 under the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993.

Vicky Anders, Chief Deputy Treasurer, is on medical leave commencing July 26, 2010 under the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993.

RESIGNATIONS:

Darlene Hawk, In-Home Services Aide, resigned effective March 9, 2010.

James Vicalvi, Substitute HDM Driver, resigned effective January 8, 2010.

RETRACT RESIGNATION:

Maylor Black, In-home Services Aide, is retracting her resignation that was accepted at the Board meeting of July 6, 2010. The resignation was to be effective August 16, 2010.

It was moved by Commissioner Loudenslager and supported by Commissioner Shaffer that the personnel report be approved. Motion carried.

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

Ms. West-Wing presented the following report:

BUDGET AMENDMENTS:

DECREASE GENERAL FUND CONTINGENCY:

Line item 101-890-941.000 (Contingency) \$ 8,458.00

INCREASE DRAIN COMMISSION'S BUDGET:

Line item 101-275-706.130 (Wages - Deputy) \$ 6,649.00

Line item 101-275-715.000 (FICA) 582.00

Line item 101-275-716.020 (Group STD) 90.00

Line item 101-275-716.100 (Workers' Compensation) 32.00

Line item 101-275-717.000 (Group Life Insurance) 15.00

Line item 101-275-718.010 (Retirement – Employer) 133.00

Line item 101-275-721.010 (BC/BS Opt Out) 957.00

\$ 8,458.00

DECREASE GENERAL FUND CONTINGENCY:

Line item 101-890-941.000 (Contingency)	\$ 20,000.00
<u>INCREASE JUVENILE COURT'S BUDGET:</u>	
Line item 101-149-844.105 (Foster Care Recruitment)	\$ 20,000.00

DECREASE CENTRAL DISPATCH'S BUDGET:

Line item 211-911-941.000 (Contingency)	\$104,218.00
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INCREASE CENTRAL DISPTACH'S BUDGET:

Line item 211-911-943.000 (Rental Expenditure)	\$ 7,000.00
Line item 211-911-977.000 (Equipment General)	39,500.00
Line item 211-911-977.010 (Communications Equipment)	<u>57,718.00</u>
	\$104,218.00

DECREASE FRIEND OF THE COURT'S BUDGET:

Line item 101-141-816.000 (Contractual Services)	\$ 220.00
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INCREASE FRIEND OF THE COURT'S BUDGET:

Line item 101-141-978.000 (Furniture & Fixtures)	\$ 220.00
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FROM APPROPRIATION:

\$30,000.00 from Secondary Road Patrol Appropriation to Secondary Road Patrol Fund.

It was moved by Commissioner Dobberteen and supported by Commissioner Loudenslager that the budget adjustments be approved. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Dan Carey gave the following reports:

Per Diem

Robin Baker - 3 half days 8/3, 8/4 & 8/15/10 & 3 full days 7/22, 8/16 & 8/17/10	\$ 435.00
John Dobberteen - 3 half days 7/25, 7/27 & 8/10/10 & 3 full days 8/15, 8/16 & 8/17/10	435.00
Michael Dunlap - 6 half days 8/6, 8/10, 8/13, 8/16, 8/20 & 8/21/10 & 2 full days 8/22 & 8/23/10	400.00
Gerald Loudenslager - 3 half days 7/22, 7/27 & 8/14/10 & 1 full day 8/14/10	245.00
David Pueschel - 6 half days 6/16, 7/2, 7/22, 7/30, 8/6 & 8/13/10 & 2 days 6/24 & 7/1/10	490.00
Rick Shaffer - 9 half days 6/21, 7/22, 7/26, 7/28, 7/30, 8/4, 8/10 x 2 & 8/13/10	450.00
Jerry Ware - 2 half days 8/4 & 8/17/10	<u>100.00</u>
	\$2,555.00

Expenses

Robin Baker	\$ 153.50
John Dobberteen	210.99
Michael Dunlap	34.00
Gerald Loudenslager	27.00
David Pueschel	143.50
Rick Shaffer	133.00
Jerry Ware	<u>15.00</u>
	\$ 716.99

It was moved by Commissioner Baker and supported by Commissioner Loudenslager that the per diem and mileage be approved. Motion carried.

Financial Statement

July	\$	1,216,552	\$	1,270,239
Year to Date		8,116,130		8,004,470
Period Fund Balance		(\$53,687.00)		
Year to Date		\$ 91,660.00		
Percent of budget year elapsed year to date.				58.33%
Percent of total budgeted funds earned year to date				55.60%
Percent of total budgeted funds expended year to date				54.97%

It was moved by Commissioner Loudenslager and supported by Commissioner Pueschel that the financial statement be accepted. Motion carried.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Dunlap stated that there was some property stolen in his neighborhood including a Herby Curby from his neighbor and their mailbox was smashed, so he encouraged the public to look out for anything suspicious.

MISCELLANEOUS

Commissioner Baker reminded everyone of some information that he had provided to everyone from Attorney Peter Cohl.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and supported by Commissioner Loudenslager that the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners adjourn until September 7, 2010 at 5:00 p.m. Motion carried.

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Pattie S. Bender, County Clerk

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Michael D. Dunlap, Chairman